

U.S. Application No.: NEW  
PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Attorney Docket: 3926.222

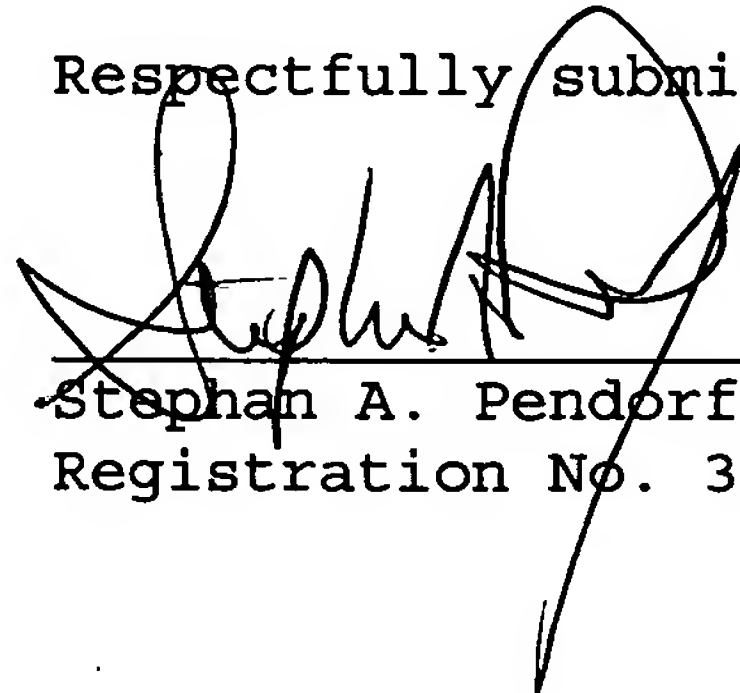
REMARKS

The claims have been amended in order to eliminate multiple dependent claims and claims improperly depending from multiple dependent claims, and to otherwise conform the claims to U.S. practice. Care has been taken to ensure that no new matter is added to the text.

Paragraph [0009] has been amended, to remove references to the Claims in the specification. Applicants are submitting herewith a substituted Specification. Care has been taken to ensure that no new matter has been added.

Entry and favorable consideration prior to consideration are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: December 21, 2005

10/562234

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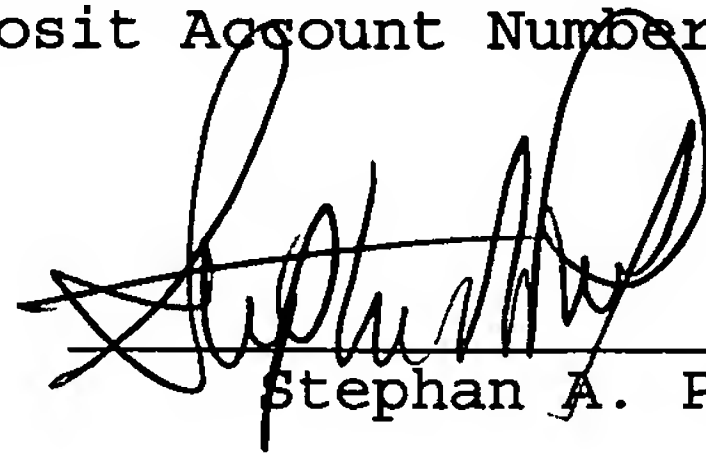
**EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE**

"EXPRESS MAIL" MAILING LABEL NUMBER: EV687310543US

DATE OF DEPOSIT: December 21, 2005

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Preliminary Amendment and a stamped receipt post card are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. §1.10 on the date indicated with sufficient postage and is addressed: **ATTN: Mail Stop PCT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required at any time during the prosecution of this application without specific authorization, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 16-0877.



Stephan A. Pendorf